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Swanscombe Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1950

BY

M. F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

SWANSCOMBE U.D. COUNCIL

With the

Medical Officer of Health's

Compliments

Council Offices,
Swanscombe,
Kent

SWANSCOMBE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ended December, 1950

BY

M. F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
(Medical Officer of Health).

To the Chairman and Members of the
Swanscombe Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report of the Public Health conditions of the district for the year ended December, 1950.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the Council for their interest and support.

Your obedient Servant,

M. F. McDONNELL,
Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor Mrs. M. J. Wright (Chairman)
,, Mrs. A. F. Austin
,, W. Austin
,, E. W. Blackwell
,, T. Bodle, J.P.
,, C. W. Butcher
,, J. Childs
,, P. Connolly
,, H. E. Durrant
,, P. Fletcher
,, F. H. J. Garland
,, G. C. Hammond
,, W. O. Keary
,, A. E. Lines
,, Rev. S. J. W. Morgan, O.B.E., C.A.
,, A. E. Scutts
,, A. F. Siggers
,, Mrs. E. E. Thurlow

Clerk:
Mr. F. G. Peters.

Solicitors:
Messrs. Baily & Goff.

Medical Officer of Health:
M. F. McDonnell, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:
L. E. Croucher, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
(who is also Surveyor)

Assistant Sanitary Inspector:
F. W. Sharpe (part time).

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	2,142
Population (Census 1931)	8,541
Present estimated population	8,230
Estimated population, 1949	8,150
,, ,, 1948	8,031
Number of inhabited houses (31st March, 1949)	2,329
Number of new houses erected year ended 31st December, 1950—	
Permanent Flats	20
Permanent	8
Rateable value 31st December, 1950	£54,805
,, ,, ,, ,, 1949	£50,995
,, ,, ,, ,, 1948	£58,286
Sum represented by penny rate 1950	£233
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1949	£147
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1948	£239
Number of Births 1950	148
,, ,, ,, 1949	153
,, ,, ,, 1948	161

	Swanscombe. Live.	Swanscombe. Still.	England and Wales. Live.	England and Wales. Still.
Birth rate per 1,000 population 1950	17.9	.24	15.8	0.37
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1949	18.77	.36	16.7	0.39
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1948	20.04	.37	17.9	0.42
Number of illegitimate births 1950				3
,, ,, ,, ,, 1949				8
,, ,, ,, ,, 1948				8
Number of deaths 1950				81
,, ,, ,, 1949				81
,, ,, ,, 1948				97

	Swanscombe.	England and Wales.
Death rate per 1,000 population 1950	9.8	11.6
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1949	9.9	11.7
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1948	12.0	10.8

	Total	M.	F.
LIVE legitimate	148	69	79
illegitimate	3	3	—
STILLBIRTHS—			
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
DEATHS	81	36	45

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	17.9
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	18.2
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	9.8

Death rate of Infants under one year of age :—	
All infants per 1,000 live births	27.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	27.4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	17
,, ,, Measles (all ages)	—
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	—

CAUSES OF DEATH IN SWANSCOMBE URBAN DISTRICT, 1950

Causes of Death	Male	Female
All causes	36	45
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	2
Tuberculosis, other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Acute Poliomylitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—
Cancer, Stomach	2	2
Cancer, Lung, Bronchus	1	2
Cancer, Breast	—	1
Cancer, Uterus	—	2
Lymphatic Cancers	4	3
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	—
Diabetes	—	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	6
Coronary Disease, Angina	6	4
Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	2
Other Heart Disease	5	4
Other Circulatory Disease	1	1
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	1	3
Bronchitis	4	1
Other diseases of Respiratory System	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	2
Hyperplasia of Prostrate	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	6
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—
Suicide	—	1

BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1950.

Provisional figures based on quarterly returns.

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (resident pop. 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	Administrative County London	Swanscombe
	Rates per 1,000 Home Population.				
Births :—					
Live	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8	17.9
Still	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36	0.23
Deaths :—					
All causes	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	9.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39	0.23
Influenza	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.07	0.00
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.48	0.36
Notifications (corrected) :—					
Typhoid fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Scarlet fever	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.23	7.41
Whooping Cough	3.60	3.97	3.15	3.21	7.65
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Erysipelas	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17	0.72
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	8.39	9.76	8.36	6.57	29.52
Pneumonia	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.50	2.79
Acute Poliomyelitis including Polioencephalitis					
Paralytic	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.00
Non-paralytic	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.12
Food poisoning	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.25	0.00
	Rates per 1,000 live births.				
Deaths :—					
All causes under 1 year of age	29.8(*a*)	33.8	29.4	26.3	.24
Deaths from Diarrhoea and enteritis under 2 years of age	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.0	0.00
	Rates per 1,000 total births (live and still) births				
Notifications (corrected) :—					
Puerperal fever and Pyrexia	5.81	7.43	4.33	6.03	0.00

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES

International List No. and Cause		Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
651.	Abortion with sepsis	0.09	7
650, 652	Other abortion	0.05	4
640-649, 670-678.	Complication of pregnancy and delivery	0.54	—
681.	Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	0.03	
680, 682-689.	Other complications of the puerperium	0.15	

(a) Per 1,000 related live births

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS

Special outfits for use when premature babies are to be nursed at home, or for their conveyance to hospital, are available free on application by a doctor or midwife at the following address :—

The Surgeon Superintendent, County Hospital, Farnborough.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

AREA No. 5.

Advice and ante-natal care is given at these Clinics.

Post-natal examinations are carried out at Ante-Natal Clinics.

SWANSCOMBE U.

New Parish Hall, Swanscombe, 1st and 3rd Monday—2 p.m.

WOMEN'S WELFARE CLINICS.

These clinics are provided for the purpose of giving advice on women's minor ailments, sterility and on contraception where such advice is necessary for medical reasons.

GRAVESEND B.

Windmill Street, Gravesend, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesday, 10 a.m.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

These centres are open at the days and times set out for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of infants and children under the age of five years. Infant foods, National Dried Milk and Ministry of Food Vitamin products are issued at these centres. A Medical Officer and a Health Visitor are in attendance at each centre.

Ministry of Food Offices and other Centres are also available for the supply of National Dried Milk and Ministry of Food Vitamin products for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and for children under five years of age.

SWANSCOMBE U.

New Parish Hall, Swanscombe	Thursday, 2 p.m.
Knockhall Lodge, Greenhithe	Tuesday, 2 p.m.

DAY NURSERIES.

These nurseries provide accommodation for the daily care of children under five years of age.

Places are only available for children of women who are unmarried, widowed, separated, having to work because of a dependent husband, or by reason of illness or confinement are unable to look after their families, and children from families who are living in conditions inimical to the proper care of young children, and exceptionally children from a family where the father is himself endeavouring to bring up a family but can secure no one to look after a child under 5 years of age during ordinary working hours.

GRAVESEND B.

"Daneholm," Pelham Road ..... Matron—Miss Rigden.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

Facilities for vaccination, free of direct cost, against smallpox are available for infants at all Child Welfare Clinics and all Medical Practitioners have been invited to participate in the scheme.

Vaccine Lymph can be obtained from the County Laboratory, Maidstone, by all medical practitioners carrying out vaccination under the County Council's arrangements.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Facilities for immunisation, free of cost, are available at all Child Welfare Centres, and at special Immunising Clinics, and all Medical Practitioners have been invited to participate in the scheme, which provides for free immunisation against diphtheria. The child should normally have the first injection between the ages of eight months and one year ; and reinforcing doses shortly before starting school and again at nine years of age.

Supplies of A.P.T. and T.A.F. can be obtained from the County Laboratory, Maidstone, by all practitioners carrying out immunisation under the County Council's arrangements.

DOMESTIC HELP.

This service is to provide domestic help for households where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying in, and expectant mothers, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age. Householders are required to contribute towards the cost in accordance with their means.

GRAVESEND B.

Apply to Domestic Help Section, c/o District Officer, Arthur Street, Gravesend. Telephone : Gravesend 166.

HEALTH VISITORS.

These officers are appointed for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant and nursing mothers and as to the measure necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

The Health Visitors also undertake duties in connection with the School Health Service.

SWANSCOMBE.

Miss G. Douglas, Hambrook, c/o Marina Club, Hoo.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

This service, which is free, is to secure that an adequate number of midwives are employed by the Council for attending women in their own homes, either as midwives or maternity nurses.

The names, addresses and telephone numbers of midwives in Area 5 are given below.

Midwives :

Miss M. G. Barron	98, Leonard Avenue, Swanscombe, Kent.	Gravesend 2385.
Mrs. D. Kemp	67, Broomfield Road, Swanscombe, Kent.	Gravesend 4121.

HOME NURSING SERVICE.

This service, which is free, is to secure the attendance of nurses on persons who require nursing in their own homes. Apart from cases of emergency and accident, patients can only be attended when the nurse has been requested to do so by a doctor At the present time it is not possible to provide a night service.

The names and addresses of Home Nurses in Swanscombe are given below. Where the nurse is on the telephone the number is also given.

Home Nurse :

Miss R. E. Radburn	94, Ames Road, Swanscombe, Kent.	Gravesend 2910.

COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The County Council is responsible for the provision of a comprehensive ambulance service throughout the County. Other than in cases of accident and emergency, no ambulance or car will be provided except on the recommendation of a doctor, midwife, hospital or District Officer.

To facilitate the call-out of ambulance in cases of accident or emergency, arrangements have been made with the Post Office Authorities for such calls to be passed automatically to the nearest manned fire station the staff of which will assume the responsibility of dealing with the emergency. The arrangement will not operate where direct lines exist between public call boxes and ambulance stations.

The service will be provided by (a) vehicles provided and manned by the County Council ; (b) vehicles operated and manned by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, British Red Cross Society and the Margate Ambulance Corps acting as agents of the Council and (c) sitting case cars provided through the Hospital Car Service as the agents of the Council.

Ambulance Station and Address.	Operated by	Telephone No.	Neighbouring Stations
Dartford :			
West Hill Hospital	Kent County Council	Dartford 3223	Bexley Erith Northfleet Gravesend Farningham
Northfleet :			
The Hill,	St. John Ambulance Brigade	Gravesend 4603	Gravesend Rochester Dartford
Gravesend :			
Commercial Place, Gravesend	St. John Ambulance Brigade	Gravesend 2854	Northfleet Rochester Dartford

MEDICAL LOAN DEPOTS AND PROVISION OF NURSING REQUISITES.

GRAVESEND (B.R.C.S.) 12, Singlewell Road	By appointment with Mrs. Roberts. 'Phone Gravesend 403.
NORTHFLEET (St. John) 69, Dover Road (Mr. C. J. Sims. 'Phone Northfleet 4603)	Monday-Friday, 7.30 p.m.—9 p.m.
GRAVESEND (St. John) Park House, Park Pl. (Miss L. Smith, 'Phone Gravesend 854)	Daily 8 a.m.—8 p.m.
SWANSCOMBE (B.R.C.S.), 20 Trebble Road, Swanscombe (Mrs. Penfold)	Daily 10.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m. (except Sunday).

Arrangements have been made with the British Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Brigade for the continuance of the Medical Loan Depots on behalf of the County Council. The full range of nursing requisities will be available at these depots and details of the addresses and the times the depots are open for distribution are available in the district offices. These arrangements will be in addition to the loan cupboards kept by District Nurses. The depots will deal with all applications for the loan of nursing requisites.

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Hospital and specialist services, including institutions for the chronic sick, mental homes, maternity homes, convalescent homes, dispensaries and out-patient department are administered by the Regional Hospital Boards set up by the Minister of Health. The Southeast Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board is responsible for all hospitals in Kent, but for day to day administration Hospital Management Committees are set up to deal with groups of hospitals.

The District Officer is supplied with particulars relating to each hospital in his district, but generally speaking admission to hospital is a matter for the doctor in charge of the patient and he will make arrangements direct with the hospital authorities, calling upon the County Ambulance Service for the removal of the patient to hospital where this is considered necessary.

(For details see appendix)

DISTRICT OFFICERS.

These officers are responsible for—

1. Duties as authorised Officers under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.
2. Acting as representatives of the County Health Department in dealing with enquiries made by the Public and arranging for County Health Services to be made available in cases of difficulty.
3. Carrying out the duties of the County Council under the National Assistance Act in (a) arranging admissions of old, handicapped and homeless people to residential establishments other than in cases of sickness ; (b) the care of moveable property of patients who are admitted to hospital or a residential establishment provided by the Council where it appears that there is danger of loss or damage to the property.

DISTRICT OFFICERS AND ASSISTANTS.

District.	Name and Address of Officer.	Office Telephone No.	Home Telephone No.
14. GRAVESEND Northfleet Swanscombe and part of Strood Rural	*Office*: Arthur Street, Gravesend *District Officer*: Mr. G. T. JEFFERY, 357, Watling Street, Dartford	Gravesend 166	Dartford 3143

Assistant District Officer:

Mr. E. S. JOHNSON,

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL INSURANCE.

Local Office :—" Ravenscourt," Pelham Road, Gravesend.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Minor Ailment, Aural, Child Guidance, Dental, Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic and Speech Clinics

Minor Ailment Clinics :

Gravesend, Windmill Street	Every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.0-10.0 a.m.
Gravesend, Estate Office Whitehill Road	Every Tuesday, 9.0-10.0 a.m.
Denton, 107 Rochester Road	Every Tuesday and Friday, 9.0-10.0 a.m.
Northfleet, West Kent House, Station Road	Health Visitor attends every morning from 9.0 to 10.0 a.m., and Medical Officer on every Saturday morning.
Dartford, West Hill Hospital	Health Visitor attends every morning from 9.0 to 10.0 a.m. and Medical Officer every Friday and Saturday morning.

***Child Guidance Clinics** :

Chatham, 118 Maidstone Road	Every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (all day), and Saturday mornings (by appointment).

Dental Clinics :

Northfleet, West Kent House, Station Road	Alternate Wednesdays and every Thursday and Friday, all day.
Gravesend, 5 Manor Road	Every day.

In addition the Mobile Clinic visits Southfleet, Fawkham, Stone, Bean, Hartley, Longfield, Meopham, Higham and Shorne, Horton Kirby and Cobham.

***Ophthalmic Clinics** :

Gravesend and North Kent Hospital	Every Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoons.
Dartford, County Hospital	1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday in the month, all day. Every Monday in the month, all day.
Gravesend (Borough), Gravesend and North Kent Hospital	Every Monday afternoon.
Chatham, 118 Maidstone Road	Every Monday, all day. 1st, 3rd and 5th Friday mornings only.

***Orthopaedic Clinics** :

Dartford, West Hill Hospital	1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesday mornings in the month. Physiotheraphy daily.
Gravesend Borough	Referred to Orthopaedic Surgeon at Gravesend Hospital, by arrangement.
St. Bart's Hospital, Rochester	Every Tuesday, 4-6 p.m. (Surgeon) Physiotheraphy daily

***Speech Clinic** ,

Chatham, " Elmsleigh," 118 Maidstone Road	Every Tuesday, all day.
Gravesend, " The Nest,"	Every Thursday, all day.

*Children attend at these Clinics by appointment.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following arrangements have been made for the reception and treatment of cases of infectious diseases :—

Smallpox.

The existing arrangement whereunder cases of smallpox are admitted to THE RIVER HOSPITALS (LONG REACH), DARTFORD, Kent. Applications for admission to that Hospital should be made to :—

DR. H. MITMAN.
Telephone No. Dartford 3231

by the Consultant who diagnoses a case of Smallpox or by the Medical Officer of Health on his behalf.

Infectious Diseases :

Worcester Training Ship, off Greenhithe, to the Port of London Authority Hospital, Gravesend. Telephone : Gravesend 257.

With effect from Monday, 10th July, 1950, all applications for the admission of infectious cases to Hospital should be made to The Medical Superintendent of the River Hospitals, Joyce Green (Telephone No. : Dartford 3231).

Scarlet Fever :

Cases notified	61
Cases removed to Hospital	2
% of cases removed ...	3.3%

Measles :

Cases notified	243
Cases removed to Hospital	0
% of cases removed	0

Whooping Cough :

Cases notified	63
Cases removed to Hospital	0
% of cases removed ...	0

Pneumonia :

Cases notified	23
Cases removed to hospital	0
% of cases removed	0

Erysipelas :

Cases notified ...	6

Meningitis :

Cases notified	1
Cases removed to Hospital	1

Poliomyelitis :

Cases notified	1
Cases removed to Hospital	1

Diphtheria :

Cases notified	0

Tuberculosis.

The following statement relates to the number of cases appearing on the Council's Register at 31st December, 1950 :—

	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Totals
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
(a) No. of cases of Tuberculosis on the register at the commencement of the year	58	48	106	16	9	25	131
(b) No. of cases remaining on the register at the end of the year	65	52	117	15	10	25	142
(c) No. of cases notified during the year	6	6	12	—	1	—	1
(d) No. of deaths during the year	—	2	2	—	—	—	2

The following are the ages and occupations of those persons notified during the year :—

Age M.	Age F.	Occupation	Age M.	Age F.	Occupation
	11	School		15	School
17		Waterman		19	Student teacher
	20	Clerk	20		Draughtsman
24		Cement Labourer		36	Housewife
37		,, ,,	43		Cement Labourer
	47	Unemployed	57		Builder's Labourer
	64	Cook			

DISPENSARIES.

Gravesend and North Kent Hospital, Gravesend	Wednesdays, 9 a.m.—5 p.m.
West Hill Hospital, Dartford,	Daily. 9 a.m.—5 p.m. Saturdays, 9 a.m.—12 noon.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925.
There was no need for action under these regulations.

Public Health Act 1925 Section 62.
Public Health Act 1936 Section 172.
There was no occasion for action under these Sections.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX, 1950.

The following is a return of (A) the number of children resident in the Urban District of Swanscombe, who were immunised against diphtheria and (B) the number of persons who were vaccinated against smallpox, during the year ended 31st December, 1950 :—

(A) **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

Year of Birth	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	Total
Primary Inoculations	15	85	12	14	12	9	5	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	161
Immunised in 1949 and received in 1950				4						1						5
Reinforcing Inoculations	—	—	—	—	—	28	49	9	11	3	1	—	—	—	—	101

(B) **Vaccination.**

Age at 31st Dec., 1950	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated	53	39	2	4	98
Number Re-Vaccinated	—	—	5	8	13

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, 1950.

The following is a return of the number of children resident in the Urban District of Swanscombe under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1950, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (*i.e.*, at any time since 1st January, 1936).

Year of Birth	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	Total
	25	84	45	58	62	89	105	133	156	154	140	109	106	91	15	1,372

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION STATISTICS, 1950, SWANSCOMBE URBAN DISTRICT.

Estimates of the population aged under 15, as at 30th June, 1950, in the above area have been prepared by the Registrar General and are furnished for use with the statistics of diphtheria immunisation ; they are as follows :—

Number of children aged 0—4 years (inclusive).....746 Number of children aged 5—14 years (inclusive).....1,058

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
—	—	— —	—	—	—	—

Venereal Diseases.

County Hospital, Dartford.	Mondays	4-6 p.m. (Males) 11-1 p.m. (Females)
22, Cobham Street, Gravesend.	Tuesdays	9.0-12 noon (Males) 12 noon-2 p.m. Females)
	Saturdays	9 a.m. (Males) 9.30 a.m. (Females)

The undermentioned figures show the number of cases suffering from V.D. attending Dartford and Gravesend V.D. Clinics from Swanscombe Urban District :—

New Patients.	Total.
Syphilis	—
Gonorrhoea	—
Non-Venereal	2
No. of attendances of Swanscombe patients	45

There were no defaulters from Swanscombe before completion of treatment during 1950.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

Registration District:
Darent Valley
Comprising Swanscombe U.D.C.
and Dartford R.D.

Registrar:
Mrs. J. Maltby.

Head Office:
The Register Office,
West Hill,
Dartford. Telephone No. 3881.

Monday	9. a.m.—12 noon
Tuesday	9 a.m.—12 noon
Wednesday	9 a.m.—12 noon
Thursday	2 p.m.—5 p.m.
Friday	2 p.m.—5 p.m.

Registration Stations:

Church Cottage,
London Road,
Greenhithe. — 1st and 3rd Thursday in each month. 9.45 a.m.—10.45 a.m.

Primitive Methodist Schoolroom,
Church Road.
Swanscombe. — Every Thursday, 11 a.m. to 12 noon

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Reports received on samples taken from various sources on the Metropolitan Water Board Supply to the area.

Date of Samples 1950.	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on agar at 37°C.	22°C.	Remarks.
17.4.50	0	0	Good water.
15.5.50	0	0	Good water
14.6.50	2	8	Good water.
17.7.50	0	0	Good water.
8.8.50	0	0	Good water.
12.9.50	0	6	Good water.
10.10.50	0	5	Good water.
7.11.50	0	0	Good water.
5.12.50	0	0	Good water.

Reports received on samples taken from various wells and mains supplying factories situated in the district.

Date of samples	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on agar at 37°C.	22°C.	Remarks.
14.2.50	2	0	Good water.
7.3.50	0	2	B.Coli presumptive absent in 90 ccs.

SWIMMING POOL.

Reports received on samples taken from the Swanscombe Pool.

Date of sample 1950.		No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on agar at 37°C.	22°C.	Remarks.
6.6.50	Deep-end	2	4	Satisfactory.
	Shallow-end	34	90	Satisfactory.
19.7.50	Deep-end	142,650	171,180	No evidence of recent faecal contamination.
	Shallow-end	79,884	114,120	Typical B. Coli in 90 ccs. Evidence of recent faecal contamination.
24.8.50	Deep-end	760	630	Count high for treated water.
	Shallow-end	2,853	8,559	Count high for treated water.
24.7.50	Deep-end	1,077	3,754	Count high for treated water.
	Shallow-end	0	0	Good water.

Attendances 1949 :	Adults 4,992.	Spectators	425
		Children paid for admission	16,493
		Children from schools	3,503
		Beaver Swimming Club	1,271
		Season Ticket holders	158
Attendances 1950 :	Adults 2,940.	Spectators	590
		Children paid for admission	11,118
		Children from schools	2,588
		Beaver Swimming Club	1,070
		Season Ticket Holders	447

SEWAGE.

12 samples of Sewage were collected at various points in the system. 9 of these were satisfactory.

CIRCULAR 2831—PROMOTION OF CLEANLINESS, GOOD HABITS AND THE ELIMINATION OF VERMINOUS CONDITIONS

Cleansing Station, Brook Vale, Northfleet, is adapted for the cleansing of verminous persons, lethane is used in cases of infestation of head. Clothing is disinfested by steam disinfestation while patients are undergoing treatment.

During 1950 no persons were treated.

CEMENT DUST NUISANCE

Thames-side Cement Works—Position in May, 1951

Extract from Report by Deputy Chief Inspector of Alkali etc., Works.

" It is appreciated that there has been no long period of dry N.E. wind and that the weather has, in general, been such that dust accumulations were unlikely. Never-the-less progress has been made in the carrying out of the programme outlined although steel shortage is causing delays not forseen at the time the schedule was mapped out.

The effect is perhaps most marked from our viewpoint at Swanscombe where the end of this year is not now likely to see the full quota of electrical precipitators overhauled and at work and where the modernisation of the packing plant is likely to be further delayed.

Delays consequent on the steel position are still more to be regretted in that evidence is accumulating that some electrical precipitators which it was hoped would operate without major overhaul for a period of five years may now by reason of corrosion of metal parts have to have such overhaul within three years.

There have also been delays in getting deliveries of wool for bag filter units used for de-dusting the low level emissions from grinding, bagging and the like.

All these have impeded the rate of progress, but have not, of course, stopped it. The programme of levelling and grassing continues with gratifying results especially South of the River Thames.

With regard to works North of the River Thames the kiln at Tunnel Works unconnected to an electrical precipitator at the time of our last discussion is now so connected. There are now five kilns out of the seven at this works (well over 85% of the output) fitted with electrical precipitators. Of the two small kilns not so fitted it is planned to replace one by a rather larger kiln fitted with an electrical precipitator. There is still low level emission from handling of materials but this should be appreciably reduced when the proposed new conveying system is installed.

I am sorry that the past six months have not seen the progress hoped for but the reason is, I am convinced, solely due to failure to obtain deliveries of material, especially steel.

I shall be pleased to keep you informed of the position."

MILK SUPPLY

Sterilized Milk.

Forty samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, all samples satisfied the turbidity test.

Pasteurised Milk.

Of the twenty-two samples taken from the distributors in this district, two did not satisfy the test.

Action and Result—Investigation proved the cause due to unsatisfactory temporary storage during periods of distribution.

Samples of School milk as supplied by W. E. Southwood, Vale Road Dairy, Northfleet, were taken monthly by the Public Health Department, Northfleet Urban District Council, all proved satisfactory.

There are no dairies or bottling establishments situated in this district.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

There are twenty-two establishments in the district, nineteen are registered for retail only, two are registered to make Ice Cream, one with cold mix and one with heat treatment as prescribed by the regulations. One hundred and twenty-four samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, with the result 81 were grade 1, 25 of grade II, 11 of Grade III, and 7 of grade IV.

The furnishings of Pathologists reports to retailers proved effective. The sale of Ice Cream made by two manufacturers was discontinued.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Details of Samples taken by the County Sampling Officers within the Swanscombe Urban District during the year ended the 31st December, 1950.

Article	No.
Barlova	1
Bismuth Lozenges	1
Bisurated Magnesia Tablets	1
Cornflour	1
Custard Powder	1
Dessicated Coconut	1
Ginger Conserve	1
Kidney Cleaners	1
Lactic Cheese	1
Lemonade	1
Lung Syrup	1
Meat Paste	1
Milk	14
Pork Sausages	2
Processed Peas	1
Tomato Soup	1
Tooth Essence	1
Sevonols	1
Vitamin Fruit Rings	1
Total	33

All the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following :—

Pork Sausages	Meat 46% Inferior	A further sample was taken which proved to be genuine.

Vitamin Fruit Rings	Vitamin C 5 I.U. per tablet Calcium 61 mgrm. per tablet	(Quantitative test for Vitamin D not available Adulterated) At the time this result was obtained proceedings were pending against the manufacturers of this product for an offence with regard to these tablets in another part of the County, so no action was taken with regard to this particular sample. The prosecution referred to resulted in a conviction. £8 in fines and costs were imposed.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

156 lbs.	Mixed Meat
154 lbs.	Beef
6 lbs.	Bacon
61 lbs. 5 ozs.	Ham
7 lbs. 12 ozs.	Tinned Chicken
6 lbs. 6 ozs.	Minced Beef Loaf
14 ozs.	Pork Luncheon Meat
8 ozs.	Craw fish
1 lb.	Salmon
36 lbs.	Skate
14 lbs.	Kippers
15 ozs	Pilchards
8 ozs.	Beans and Tomato Sauce
2 lbs. 3 ozs.	Peas
2 lbs.	Steak and Kidney Pudding
1 lb.	Sausage and Spaghetti
1 lb.	Oranges
1 lb.	Condensed Milk
1 lb. 1 oz.	Peeled Tomatoes
132	Eggs

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	311
	Number of inspections made for that purpose	311
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under the preceding heading) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Amendment Regulations, 1925 and 1932	267
	Number of inspections made for that purpose	267
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	104

2. **Remedy of defects without service of Formal Notices.**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the L.A. or its Officers 48

3. **Action under Statutory Powers.**

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 47

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 23

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ... —

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 38

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 14

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ... —

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... ... —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 3

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made ... ... —

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ... —

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Swanscombe Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1950 of work carried out under the Public Health, Housing, Factories and Food and Drugs Acts, etc.

Investigation was carried out of all cases of infectious diseases, disinfection of beddings, clothing and premises, inspection under the Factory and Workshops Act, inspection of foods, sampling of milk and water, etc., investigation of complaints, interviewing builders and owners of property concerning sanitary work. Other duties are clerical work in connection with the above and administration and supervision of the Cleansing Department.

Number of complaints received during the year	173
Total number of visits made	1754
Preliminary Notices served	85
,, ,, complied with	48
Statutory Notices served	42
,, ,, complied with	40

Verbal notice only was given on 31 occasions.

Visits made by Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1950 :—

First visits, Public Health Act 1936 and Housing Act 1936	283
Re-visits, Public Health Act 1936	141
Infectious disease enquiries	393
Inspections of verminous premises	7
Visits in connection with verminous persons	—
Water supply and subsequent visits	11
Drainage inspections	34
Drains tested	24
Visits regarding cesspools	1
Housing Act visits and revisits	142
Moveable dwelling inspections	3
Rats and mice primary visits	133
Rats and mice subsequent visits	59
Factories visited	40
Bakehouse—basement	—
Bakehouses—ground level	12
Food premises	212
Dairies and milkshops	—
Milk sampling	62
Water sampling	11
Ice Cream sampling	124
Sewage sampling	24
Stables	—
Miscellaneous, accumulations animals	—
Swimming Pool (water samples)	8
	1754

The following is a summary of nuisances and defects remedied during the year :—

Accumulations of offensive refuse removed	3
Animals in an unfit state	5
Ashbins provided	81
Ceilings repaired	29
Cesspools repaired or abolished	1
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	8
Chimney flues repaired	2
Doors repaired or renewed	5
Door frames repaired or renewed	1
Drainage Systems :—	
Drains repaired or reconstructed	2
Drains Cleansed	9
Gulley traps repaired or renewed	4
Gulley trap gratings provided	—
Soil and vent pipes provided	—
Inspection chambers repaired	2
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	8
Firegrates repaired or renewed	—
Fireplaces, brickwork and plasterwork repaired	—
Floors repaired or relaid	10
Floors, sub-floor ventilation provided	3
Rainwater downspouts repaired or renewed	5
Roofs repaired	11
Sinkstones repaired or renewed	—
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	4
Staircase repaired	—
Stoves repaired or renewed	—
Rats, premises treated	39
Verminous rooms	15
Walls, brickwork repaired or repointed	16
Wall, damp proof course inserted	3
Walls, internal plasterwork repaired	31
Washing boilers, coppers repaired or renewed	2
Water closets :—	
External structure repaired	10
Internal structure repaired	4
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	6
Flush pipes repaired or renewed	2
Basins and traps renewed	1
Seats repaired or renewed	3
Water supply, supply pipes, etc., repaired	11
Windows, woodwork of frames, sashes or sills repaired or renewed	32
Yard Surfaces repaired or renewed	5
Miscellaneous	11
Approximate number of separate premises in the area	2329

Number of premises containing each type of sanitary convenience in district (approximate) :—

W.C's into drainage system	2457	W.C's into cesspools	86
Earth closets or privy middens	1	Pail Closets	3

INFECTION AND DISINFECTION.

During the year 381 cases of infectious diseases were investigated, viz :—

Scarlet fever	61
Tuberculosis	13
Measles	243
Whooping Cough	63
Puerperal Pyrexia	—
Poliomyelitis	1
Total	381

Included in this was the supervision of the disinfection of same.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

(1) The number of (a) Council Houses 3 ; (b) other houses 2 ; (i) found to be infested 5 ; (ii) disinfested 5.
(2) The method employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs is by fumigation, (Fumite), contains D.D.T. 60% in weight.
(3) The method employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin, routine inspection and disinfestation.
(4) The work of disinfestation : (a) Council Houses, Local Authority. (b) Private houses, Local Authority at owner's cost.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

INFESTATION ORDER SR & O 1943 No. 680.

In accordance with Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Circular N.S. No. 19, a test was made of the Sewer and was found to be infested.

After post baiting the infestation was successfully dealt with.

Surface Infestations. Six major infestations were dealt with, four successfully, the remaining two required periodical treatment. Twenty-eight minor infestations were also successfully dealt with.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

One S.D. Freighter (registered 1950) of 6 cubic yards capacity is used for this work, one driver and four men are employed on this vehicle.

It was necessary on occasions to utilise the Ford lorry to maintain this service.

Approximately 5,052 cubic yards were collected and disposed of.

The tip was periodically treated for pest nuisances.

STREET CLEANSING, GULLEY AND CESSPOOL EMPTYING.

Although these services were reasonably maintained, it was at times necessary to borrow vehicles from the neighbouring authorities. The Council's Scammell at times being out of commission owing to mechanical defects.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

1. **INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories with Mechanical power	16	4	—
Factories without Mechanical power	10	1	—
Other premises under the Act	13	—	—
Totals	39	5	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Defects			
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	No. of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—				
Insufficient	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	3	3	—	—
Totals	11	11	—	—

	No. in district	No. of visits in 1950	No. of faults and defects found	No. of faults and defects remedied
Bakehouses	6	12	1	1
Dairies	—	—	—	—
*Slaughterhouses—				
Registered	2	14	—	—
Licensed	2			
Other food-preparing places which are, as such, subject to inspection	33	268	5	5
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Common Lodging Houses	—	—	—	—
Houses-let-in-lodgings	—	—	—	—
Factories	31	16	4	4
Workshops	22	10	—	—
Workplaces (other than outworkers' homes)	15	13	—	—

* No licences granted.

Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding.

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	2
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	10
(b)	(i)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	—
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	—
(d)	(i)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—

(1) Total number of houses owned by the Local Authority :—

1919 Scheme	65
1923 ,,	28
1924 ,,	228
Non-subsidy	112
1936 Scheme	28
Prewar houses being sold under mortgage	34
Temporary	100
Orchard Road Site	8
New Houses, Permanent Type	38
,, ,, ,, Prefabricated	62
Swanscombe Street Site conversions, Bungalows	38
Purchased premises Milton Street	2
Requisitioned Units	17
The Flats	20
Total	780

(2) Number of new houses built during 1950 ,—

(a) By Local Authority	
Permanent type Flats	20
Permanent type	8
(b) By other bodies or persons	—
	28

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
L. E. CROUCHER,
Sanitary Inspector.

APPENDIX

MEDWAY AND GRAVESEND HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
GRAVESEND AND NORTH KENT HOSPITAL
OUT-PATIENTS' CLINICS

TIME TABLE

Note—All Clinics by appointment except * where patients must have Doctors letter.

	MONDAY	
General Medicine	Dr. Craig	9.30 a.m.
E.N.T.	*Mr. Gill	9.30 a.m.
Ophthalmology (K.E.C. School Clinic)	Dr. McDonnell	1.30 p.m.
Orthopaedic Surgery (Fractures by appointment)	Mr. Franklin	2.00 p.m.
	TUESDAY	
Dentistry	Mr. Wilkinson	9 a.m.
Ophthalmology	Mr. Simmons	9.30 a.m.
General Surgery	*Mr. Landau	11.30 a.m.
Ante-Natal	*Mr. Horrocks and Mr. Hunter	2.30 p.m.
General Medicine	Dr. Moir	2.30 p.m.
Gynaecology	Mr. Horrocks and Mr. Hunter	3 p.m.
	WEDNESDAY	
Chest Diseases	Dr. Calvey	9 a.m.
General Surgery	Mr. Stanley	9.30 a.m.
Physiotherapy	Mr. Franklin	12 noon
E.N.T.	*Mr. Gill	1.30 p.m.
Psychiatric	Dr. Hardwick	3 p.m.
	THURSDAY	
Chest Diseases (Refills)	Dr. Calvey	9.30 a.m.
Ophthalmology	Mr. Heath	9.30 a.m.
	Mr. Simmons	1.30 p.m.
Orthopaedic Surgery	Mr. Franklin	9.30 a.m.
Physiotherapy	Mr. Franklin	12 noon
	FRIDAY	
Dentistry	Mr. Wilkinson	9.30 a.m.
General Medicine	Dr. Craig	9.30 a.m.
Orthopaedic Surgery	Mr. Franklin	11.15 a.m.
General Surgery	Mr. Cohen	2 p.m.
Psychiatric	Dr. Pearse	2 p.m.
	SATURDAY	
General Medicine	Dr. Craig	9 a.m.
	*Mr. Horrocks and Mr. Hunter	9.30 a.m.

DARTFORD HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
THE WEST HILL HOSPITAL
OUT-PATIENTS' CLINIC

General Medicine	N. D. McCreath	1.30 p.m. Monday, etc.
	J. C. Hogarth	1.30 p.m. Tuesday
	G. B. Stratton	1.30 p.m. Monday, etc.
Rheumatic	J. C. Hogarth	2.0 p.m. Wednesday
Diabetic	J. Goldstein	2.0 p.m. Friday
General Surgery	T. Meyrick Thomas	9.30 a.m. Wednesday
	T. S. Cochrane	10.0 a.m. Tuesday, etc.
	J. C. Morris	10.0 a.m. Friday
	J. A. E. Watts	2.0 p.m. Thursday
Genito-Urinary	J. C. Morris	10.0 a.m. Tuesday
Gynaecology	G. Dalley	9.30 a.m. Monday, etc.
	A. W. Chester	10.0 a.m. Tuesday, etc.
	W. Gross	1.30 p.m. Monday
Infertility	G. Dalley	9.30 a.m. Thursday
Ante-Natal	G. Dalley	1.15 p.m. Thursday
	W. Gross	10.30 a.m. Monday, etc.
Ophthalmology	F. Oliver Walker	2.30 p.m. Monday
E.N.T.	J. F. Lipscomb	1.30 p.m. Thursday
	H. S. Gild	9.0 a.m. Monday, etc.
	E. H. Rainer	9.0 a.m. Wednesday
Orthopaedics	K. F. Hulbert	10.0 a.m. Tuesday, etc.
	Fractures—	9.30 a.m. Thursday
	B. Lawson	10 a.m. Friday
Paediatrics	D. G. Leys	1.30 p.m. Wednesday (Fortnightly)
	S. D. V. Weller	1.30 p.m. Wednesday
Physical Medicine	R. H. Rattray	2.0 p.m. Monday, etc.
Psychiatry	H. S. Capoore	9.30 a.m. Monday, etc.
Dermatology	C. M. Ockwell	9.0 a.m. Monday, etc.
Venereology	C. M. Ockwell	11.0 a.m. Monday, etc.
Chest Diseases	H. C. Calvey	9.0 a.m. Monday, etc.

THE SOUTHERN HOSPITAL, DARTFORD
OUT-PATIENTS, CLINICS

General Medicine	J. C. Hogarth	10.0 a.m. Monday, etc.
	W. E. R. Bodd	10 a.m. Monday
General Surgery	J. A. E. Watts	2.0 p.m. Monday
Gynaecology	G. Dalley	9.30 a.m. Tuesday
Orthopaedic Surgery	B. Lawson	9.30 a.m. Tuesday, etc.
	K. F. Hulbert	2.0 p.m. Thursday (Fortnightly)
E.N.T.	E. H. Rainer	2.0 p.m. Wednesday

JOYCE GREEN HOSPITAL, DARTFORD
OUT-PATIENTS' CLINICS

General Medicine	J. Goldstein	1.30 p.m. Tuesday, etc.
Gynaecology	A. W. Chester	1.30 p.m. Wednesday
Orthopaedic Surgery	B. Lawson	2.30 p.m. Thursday
E.N.T.	E. H. Rainer	11.0 a.m. Tuesday
Ophthalmology	J. A. Chivers	1.30 p.m. Tuesday
Dermatology	E. J. Moynaham	2.30 p.m. Friday

THE LIVINGSTONE HOSPITAL, EAST HILL, DARTFORD
OUT-PATIENTS' CLINICS

E.N.T.	J. F. Lipscombe	2.15 p.m. Wednesday (Fortnightly)
Gynaecology	G. Dalley	2.0 p.m. Friday (Fortnightly)
General Medicine	J. C. Hogarth	9.30 a.m. Wednesday (Fortnightly)
Pyschiatry	B. Cates	2.0 p.m. Tuesday (Fortnightly)
General Surgery	T. Meyrick Thomas	9.30 a.m. Thursday

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